IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing text-to-~~audio~~speech conversion of [[for]] an electronic book displayed on a viewer, the method comprising:

selecting an electronic book for viewing from a list of available books;

displaying a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book on the viewer, the page including text;

receiving a selection of text on the displayed page ~~for conversion to speech~~ to be provided in audio; and

~~converting~~ providing at least a portion of the selected text ~~into the~~ in corresponding ~~speech~~ audio.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including pausing the ~~conversion of~~ audio corresponding to the text.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further including resuming the ~~conversion of~~ audio corresponding to the text.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including providing a definition, in ~~speech~~ audio form, of a word selected by a user within the text.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including permitting a user to adjust a rate of the audio corresponding to the text ~~conversion to the speech~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including permitting a user to select a particular type of voice for the ~~corresponding speech~~ audio corresponding to the text.

7. (Canceled)

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8. (Currently Amended) A method for providing text-to-audio speech conversion of [[for]] an electronic book displayed on a viewer, the method comprising:

selecting an electronic book for viewing from a list of available books;

displaying a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book on the viewer, the page including text;

receiving information relating to a text-to-speech an audio function of the electronic book;

converting providing at least of a portion the text on the displayed page into corresponding speech audio based upon the information; and

automatically displaying a next page of the electronic book and converting at least a portion of text on the next page into corresponding speech audio.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further including pausing the conversion of audio corresponding to the text.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further including resuming the conversion of audio corresponding to the text.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for providing text-to-audio speech conversion of [[for]] an electronic book displayed on a viewer, the method comprising:

selecting an electronic book for viewing from a list of available books;

displaying a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book on the viewer, the page including text;

receiving information relating to a text-to-speech an audio function of the electronic book;

~~converting~~ providing at least of a portion the text on the displayed page into corresponding ~~speech~~ audio based upon the information; and

automatically converting at least a portion of text into corresponding ~~speech~~ audio on another page of the electronic book upon receiving a selection of another page.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further including pausing the ~~conversion of~~ audio corresponding to the text.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further including resuming the ~~conversion of~~ audio corresponding to the text.

14. (Withdrawn) A method for receiving commands for executing functions related to an electronic book displayed on a viewer, comprising:

displaying a page of an electronic book on a viewer;

receiving an audible command relating to a function of the electronic book;

converting the audible command into a corresponding electronic signal; and

executing the function in response to the electronic signal.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the receiving step includes receiving a turn page command.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the receiving step includes receiving an open book command.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, further including displaying an indication of available audible commands.

18. (Withdrawn) A method for performing dictation into an electronic book displayed on a viewer, comprising:

displaying a page of an electronic book on a viewer;

providing a text insertion cursor for designating a text insertion point; receiving speech from a user;

converting the speech into corresponding electronic text;

displaying the text on the viewer; and

inserting the text into the electronic book.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the inserting step includes inserting the text into the electronic book at a location identified by the user using the cursor.

20. (Withdrawn) A method for restricting access to an electronic book for display on a viewer, comprising:

storing an electronic book for display on a viewer;

receiving an audible command from a user relating to a function of the electronic book;

converting the audible command into a corresponding electronic signal; and

providing authorization to execute commands from the user relating to the electronic book only if the electronic signal satisfies particular criteria.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein the displaying step includes comparing the electronic signal to a stored electronic signal relating to the user.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing text-to-audio speech conversion of [[for]] an electronic book displayed on a viewer, the apparatus comprising:

a first selection module that selects an electronic book for viewing from a list of available books;

a display that displays a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book on [[a]] the

viewer, the page including text;

a second selection module that receives a selection of text on the displayed page

for the conversion to speech audio; and

a conversion an audio module that converts provides at least [[of]] a portion of

the selected text into corresponding speech audio.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, further including a pause

module that pauses the conversion of audio corresponding to the text.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 23, further including a resume

module that resumes the conversion of audio corresponding to the text.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, further including a

dictionary module that provides a definition, in speech audio form, of a word selected by

a user within the text.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, further including a rate

module that permits a user to adjust a rate of the conversion of audio corresponding to

the text the speech.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, further including a voice

options module that permits a user to select a particular type of voice for the

corresponding speech audio corresponding to the text.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing text-to-audio speech

conversion of [[for]] an electronic book displayed on a viewer, the apparatus comprising:

a first selection module that selects an electronic book for viewing from a list of available books;

a ~~first conversion~~ display that displays a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book on a viewer, the page including text;

~~a display~~ a second selection module that receives information relating to ~~a text-to-speech~~ an audio function of the electronic book;

~~a second conversion~~ an audio module that ~~converts~~ provides at least of a portion the text on the displayed page into corresponding ~~speech~~ audio based upon the information; and

a module that automatically displays a next page of the electronic book; [[and]] wherein the audio [[a]] module [[that]] automatically ~~converts~~ provides at least a portion of text on the next page into corresponding ~~speech~~ audio.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 29, further including a pause module that pauses the ~~conversion of~~ audio corresponding to the text.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 30, further including a resume module that resumes the ~~conversion of~~ audio corresponding to the text.

32. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing text-to-audio ~~speech~~ conversion of [[for]] an electronic book displayed on a viewer, the apparatus comprising:

a first selection module that selects an electronic book for viewing from a list of available books;

a display that displays a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book on a viewer, the page including text;

a receive module that receives information relating to a text-to-speech an audio function of the electronic book;

a conversion an audio module that converts provides at least of a portion the text on the displayed page into corresponding speech audio based upon the information; and

a display module that automatically converts provides at least a portion of text into corresponding speech on another page of the electronic book into corresponding audio, upon receiving a selection of another page.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 32, further including a pause module that pauses the conversion of audio corresponding to the text.

34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 33, further including a resume module that resumes the conversion of audio corresponding to the text.

35. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for receiving commands for executing functions related to an electronic book displayed on a viewer, comprising:

a display that displays a page of an electronic book on a viewer;

a receive module that receives an audible command relating to a function of the electronic book;

a conversion module that converts the audible command into a corresponding electronic signal; and

an execute module that executes the function in response to the electronic signal.

36. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the receive module includes a page turn module that receives a turn page command.

37. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the receive module includes an open book module that receives an open book command.

38. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35, further including a display commands module that displays an indication of available audible commands.

39. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for performing dictation into an electronic book displayed on a viewer, comprising:

a display that displays a page of an electronic book on a viewer;

a receive module that receives speech from a user;

a commands module that converts the speech into corresponding electronic text; and

an insertion module that inserts the text into the electronic book.

40. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the insertion module includes an insertion point module that inserts the text into the electronic book at a location identified by the user.

41. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for restricting access to an electronic book for display on a viewer, comprising:

a store module that stores an electronic book for display on a viewer;

a receive module that receives an audible command from a user relating to a function of the electronic book;

a conversion module that converts the audible command into a corresponding electronic signal; and

an authorization module that provides authorization to execute commands from the user relating to the electronic book only if the electronic signal satisfies particular criteria.

42. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 41, further comprising a display module, wherein the display module includes a compare module that compares the electronic signal to a stored electronic signal relating to the user.

43. (Currently Amended) A method for electronically displaying a page of an electronic book on a viewer and permitting a user to request a text-to-~~speech~~ audio function, the method comprising:

displaying a screen on a viewer;

selecting an electronic book for viewing from a list of available books on the screen;

displaying within the screen a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book, the page including text;

permitting a user to identify at least a portion of the text displayed within the screen; and

displaying a section within the screen for permitting the user to request a text-to-~~speech~~ audio conversion of the identified text.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further including displaying a section for permitting a user to request a definition, in ~~speech~~ audio form, of a word identified in the text.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further including displaying a section for permitting a user to request that the text-to-~~audio~~speech conversion be paused.

46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 45, further including displaying a section for permitting a user to request that the text-to-~~audio~~speech conversion be resumed.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising displaying an image on the screen after the text-to-~~audio~~speech conversion begins.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the image is one of a JPEG file and a MPEG 2 file.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising adjusting a rate of text-to-~~audio~~speech audible response conversion based on a command received by the user.

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising: converting an electronic book menu system text to ~~speech~~ audio; providing menu navigation prompts as audible signals; and receiving audible commands from the user based on the received prompts.

51. (Currently Amended) A screen for use in electronically displaying a page of an electronic book on a viewer and permitting a user to request a text-to-~~audio~~speech function, comprising:

~~a screen for display on a viewer~~ a first section within the screen for selecting an electronic book for viewing;

a second section within the screen for displaying a page of [[an]] the selected electronic book, the page including text and the section permitting a user to identify at least a portion of the text displayed within the screen; and

a convert third section within the screen for permitting the user to request a text-to- audiospeech conversion of the identified text.

52. (Currently Amended) The screen of claim 51, further including

a define fourth section within the screed for permitting a user to request a definition, in speech audio form, of a word identified in the text.

53. (Currently Amended) The screen of claim 51, further including

a [[pause]] fifth section within the screen for permitting a user to request that the text-to-audiospeech conversion be paused.

54. (Currently Amended) The screen of claim 53, further including

a resume sixth section within the screen for permitting a user to request that the text-to- audiospeech conversion be resumed.

55. (Withdrawn) A method for electronically displaying a page of an electronic book on a viewer and permitting a user to request a speech-to-text function, comprising:

displaying a screen on a viewer;

displaying within the screen a page of an electronic book; and

displaying a section within the screen for permitting a user to request a speech-to-text conversion for insertion of text into the displayed page of the electronic book.

56. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, further including displaying a section within the screen for the user to request an end to the speech-to-text conversion.

57. (Withdrawn) A screen for use in electronically displaying a page of an electronic book on a viewer and permitting a user to request a speech-to-text function, comprising:

a screen for display on a viewer;

a section within the screen for displaying a page of an electronic book; and

a begin dictation section within the screen for permitting a user to request a speech-to-text conversion for insertion of text into the displayed page of the electronic book.

58. (Withdrawn) The screen of claim 57, further including an end dictation section within the screen for the user to request an end to the speech-to-text conversion.

59. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the audio corresponding to the text is provided by real-time speech conversion.

60. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the audio corresponding to the text is provided by accessing an audio file corresponding to the selected text.

61. (New) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the audio corresponding to the text is provided by real-time speech conversion.

62. (New) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the audio corresponding to the text is provided by accessing an audio file corresponding to the selected text.